

Stories in pictures

BAR CODING

VIDYA AND RAJARAM SHARMA



A story photographed in Feb 2020, at Hadinaru lake of Mysore district.

Photographs in this book may not show the actual size of birds.



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Who are they?
Look how they come!
The honks getting louder and louder; giving them away.



Squinting against the sky,
Tracking them as they come,



In lines,





Or in formations,

Gliding in,



Slipping sideways
to lose height,



Wings stretched, ready to land,



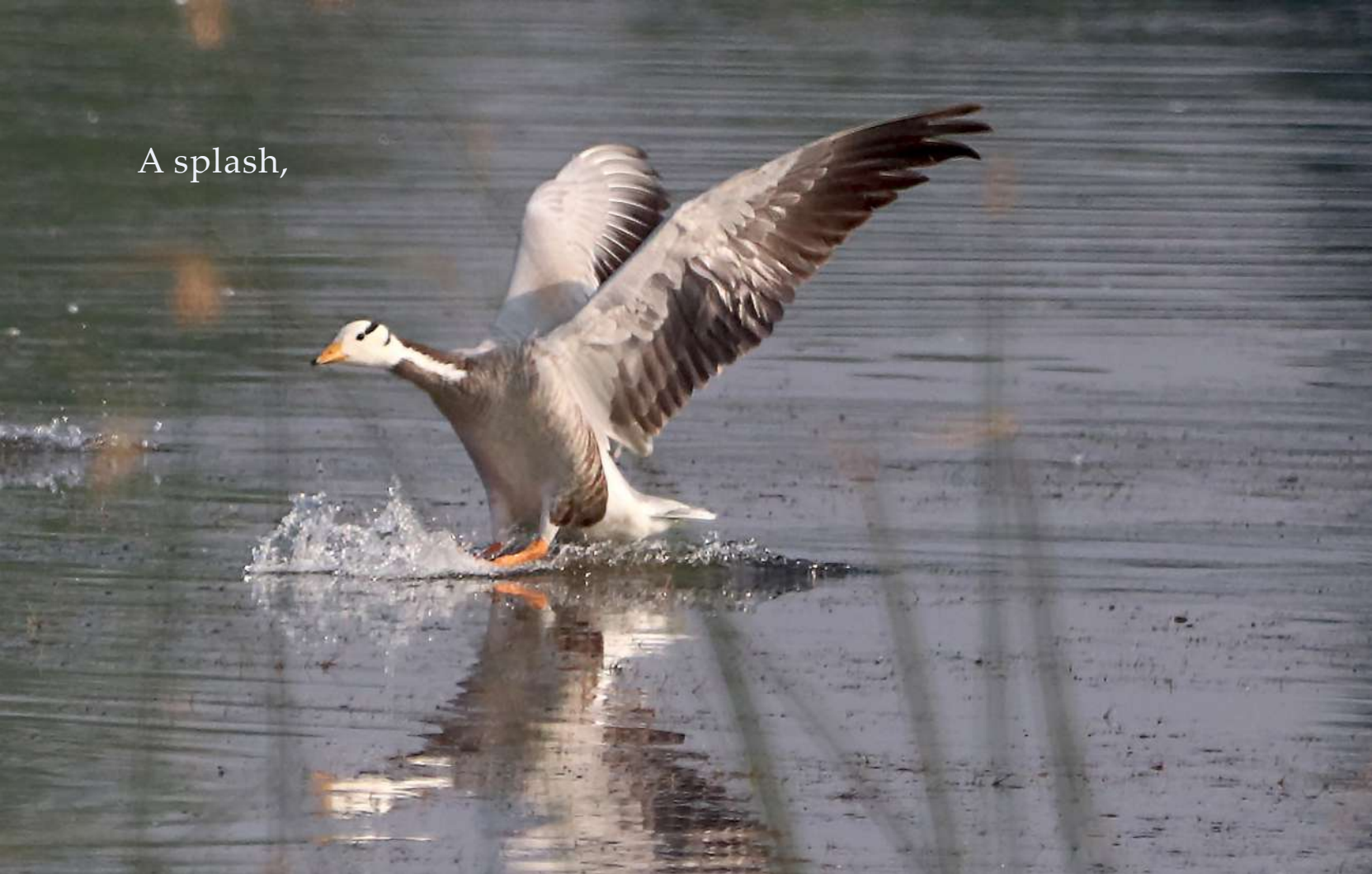
Legs extended.



And the touch down!



A splash,



Sometimes together.



Without upsetting local birds.
What control and what grace!



A large flock of white birds, likely swans or geese, is gathered in a body of water. The birds are scattered across the water's surface, some swimming and others standing. In the background, a dense forest of tall palm trees stands against a clear sky. Two birds are captured in flight above the water. The text "Flocking together," is overlaid on the image.

Flocking together,

Basking in the sun a while,





Before tucking in their heads ...

Or joining larger groups.



And calling it a day.

For they rest during day, until evening ...



And then it is time,





To look for a
nice patch of farmland,
With fresh grass and crop to feed on all night.

Breakfasting all the way till 8.30 in the morning!
Who are they?
Oh! Who are they?



With wings so large!

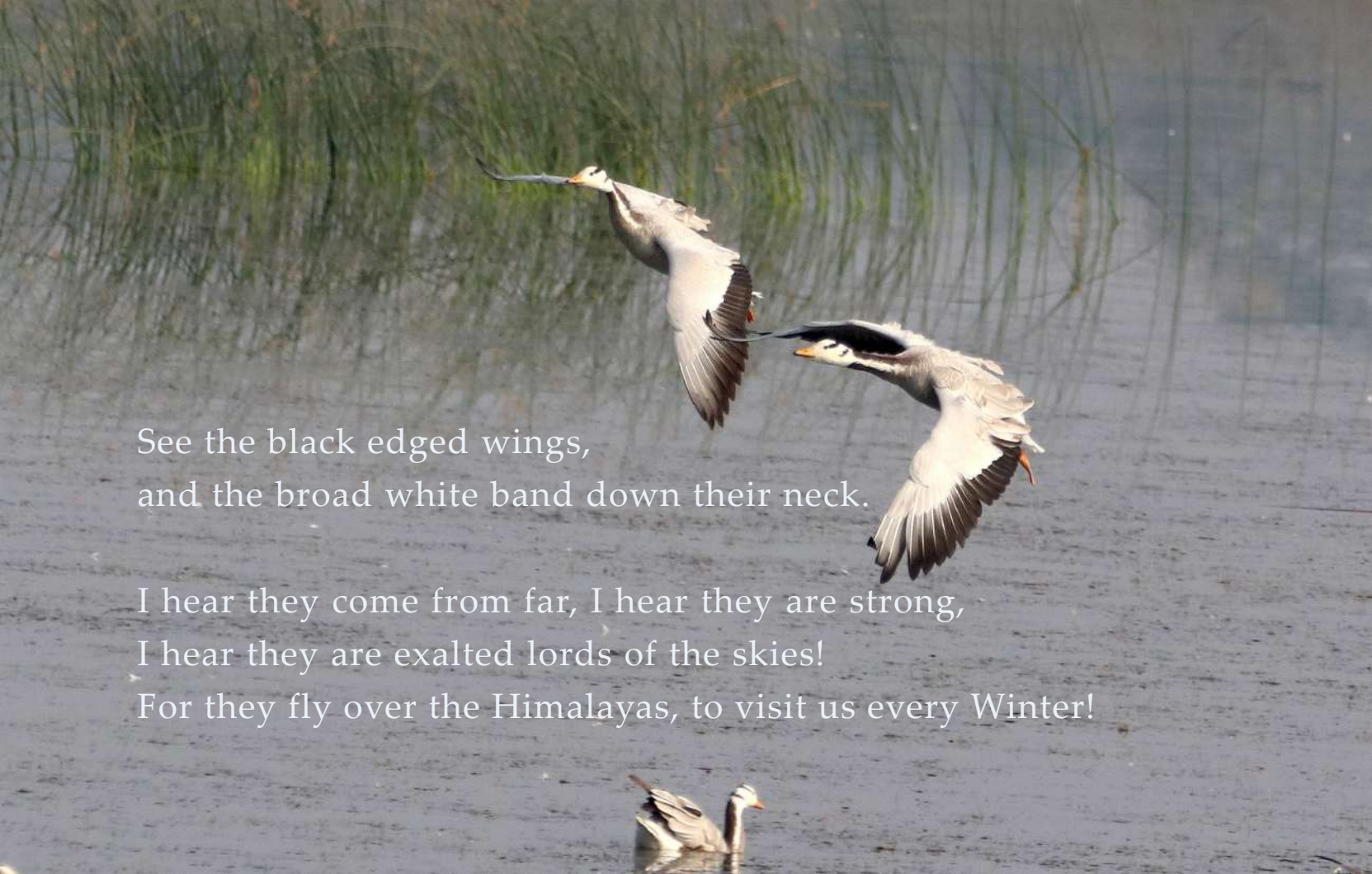




Pretty grey birds!
See the black tipped orange beak,



See the two black bars on the head!
On every one of them.

A photograph of two swans in flight over a body of water. The swans have white bodies and long, dark wings with prominent black edges. They are flying towards the left, with their necks extended forward. In the background, there are tall, thin reeds or grasses growing out of the water. The water is calm and reflects the light. At the bottom center, a third swan is partially visible, swimming in the water.

See the black edged wings,
and the broad white band down their neck.

I hear they come from far, I hear they are strong,
I hear they are exalted lords of the skies!
For they fly over the Himalayas, to visit us every Winter!

They will be soon gone, now that Summer is approaching.
Back to their homes in Tibet, China or Mongolia.



Pretty visitors! Look at them.
Look at their orange legs.





Reminds me of our domestic Geese.

Oh! Who are they?
Find out, I certainly must! Until then,
I think I'll call them the Bar-headed Geese.





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